

BOARD OF HEALTH
Room 318: Bangs Community Center
Minutes

December 10, 2009

BOH Members: David Ahlfeld, Maria Bulzacchelli, Nancy Gilbert, David Kaufman,
Sandy Sulsky

Staff: Julie Federman, Pamela Field-Sadler

Other: Diana Stein, Amherst Board of Selectmen Liaison; Kay Zlogar, Town Manager's Office

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

I. Review & Receive

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting minutes from November 19, 2009 -**Accepted as submitted**

II. Director's Report and Update

A. Interim Health Director Introduction

Julie Federman, Interim Health Director, introduced herself to the Board of Health. Ms. Federman explained she had previously worked for the Health Department serving as the Public Health Nurse for 14 years. Ms. Federman is working limited hours for the month of December and will begin full-time hours beginning in January 2010.

B. Relocation of the Health Department

The Health Department will be moved downstairs in approximately two weeks. The top floor will undergo renovations and could be used for Senior Center and/or Leisure Services programming.

C. Grant Update

Ms. Federman informed the Board of Health Amherst will not participate in the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) beta test, or as a pilot group participant in the MA Public Health Regionalization Project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Ms. Federman shared her opinion at this time these projects are inappropriate for the Health Department; both accreditation and regionalization could be considered in the future.

III. New Business

A. Basic Core Functions

The Board of Health reviewed handouts regarding the Core Functions and 10 Essential Services of Public Health and inquired how the Board of Health could best support the Health Department during this transitional period. Ms. Federman suggested the Board of Health could help suppress rumors, as well as suggested attending the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) orientation for Boards of Health could be useful. The Board of Health will write a letter to Town Manager Larry Shaffer to communicate the Board's needs, as well as gain a greater understanding of the Health

Department's priorities and needs moving forward. Ms. Zlogar will invite Mr. Shaffer to the next Board of Health meeting scheduled for January 7, 2010.

B. Social Justice Grant

The Social Justice Grant has been moved from the Health Department. The focus of the work is shifting toward a community assessment. A request for a time extension may be applied for.

C. Rumors

It was noted rumors are circulating regarding staffing in the Health Department.

D. H1N1 Vaccine Clinic

The Town of Amherst and the UMASS Health Services sponsored an H1N1 Vaccine Clinic on December 2, 2009. Ms. Zlogar reported the clinic ran extremely well. Two Board of Health members who attended the clinic supported Ms. Zlogar's assessment of the clinic.

III. Old Business

A. Tobacco Regulations

1. Outdoor Spaces

The BOH reviewed the current draft of the ETS regulation. The BOH agreed to the following:

- Modify Section 3
 1. Definition of "Municipal Building": change the word municipality to "*town*"; replace XXXX with "*Town Hall, Bangs Community Center, Department of Public Works, Police and Fire Stations.*"
 2. Definition of "Work space or work spaces": remove the word "enclosed"
- Modify Section 4(3)(e): replace the word "a" with "*an enclosed*"
- Modify Section 4(3)(g) to read: "*in all outdoor areas where food and/or beverages are served to the public by employees of restaurants, bars and taverns;*"
- Modify Section 4(3)(h) to read: "*in the area within twenty feet of any municipal building entranceway accessible to the public, except that this shall not apply to a smoker transitting through such twenty foot area; and*"
- Add definition for "Registered Event" in Section 3

The modifications will be made to the draft regulations and forwarded to Attorney Wilson for review.

IV. Schedule Next BOH Meeting/Agenda Closing Date

- A.** The next BOH meeting will be January 7, 2009.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 p.m.

